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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 E02D5/56 E02D E02D27/14 E02B3/06 A01K63/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) EO2D EO2B AO1K EO4H Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 4 405 262 A (NAGASHIMA MASAYA) 1,3,5-7,20 September 1983 (1983-09-20) 14,15 column 1, line 6 - column 1, line 12 Υ column 3, line 24 - column 3, line 68 column 4, line 49 - column 5, line 4 figures 1-10 Υ GB 1 552 162 A (PARRY P J; PARRY R) 12 September 1979 (1979-09-12) page 2, line 25 - page 2, line 32 figure 1 FR 2 028 116 A (BRODRICK ALAN) 2,16 A 9 October 1970 (1970-10-09) page 7, line 9 - page 8, line 4 page 8, line 22 - page 8, line 29 figures 17,8,11 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clied to understand the principle or theory, underlying the 'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention 'E' earlier document but published on or after the International "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed Invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the citation or other special reason (as specified) document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed *&' document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the International search report 17/02/2004 10 February 2004 Authorized officer Nank- and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2

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